

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A container identification system comprising:

a fastener mechanism configured to extend for a length at least partially around an outer perimeter of a container;

a tag holder coupled to said fastener mechanism and comprising an outer surface and an inner surface, said inner surface defining a cavity within said tag holder, said cavity having a circumferential length that is less than the length of said fastener mechanism, said cavity sized to receive indicia therein for identifying the container; and

an attachment mechanism having a first portion coupled to and extending substantially across a length of said tag holder and a second portion coupled to said fastener mechanism and configured to couple to said attachment mechanism first portion, such that said tag holder is coupled to said fastener mechanism.

2. (original) A container identification system in accordance with Claim 1 further comprising an identification tag sized for insertion into said cavity, said identification tag configured to receive indicia thereon for identifying the container.

3. (original) A container identification system in accordance with Claim 2 wherein said identification tag comprises an erasable outer surface.

4. (original) A container identification system in accordance with Claim 3 wherein said erasable outer surface comprises a polypropylene coating.

5. (canceled)

6. (canceled)

7. (previously presented) A container identification system in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said attachment mechanism comprises at least one of a mechanical fastening device, an interlocking device, a hook and pile fastener, a hook and loop fastener, a tab and slot device, a locking mechanism, a magnet, a tying system, and a clip.

8. (previously presented) A container identification system in accordance with Claim 1, wherein a first end of said fastener mechanism is coupled to a second end of said fastener mechanism by a coupling mechanism that comprises at least one of a mechanical fastening device, an interlocking device, a hook and pile fastener, a hook and loop fastener, a tab and slot device, a locking mechanism, a magnet, a tying system, and a clip.

9. (currently amended) A method of identifying a container, said method comprising:

coupling a tag holder to a fastener mechanism using an attachment mechanism to facilitate forming a container identification system, wherein the attachment mechanism includes a first portion coupled to and extending substantially across a length of the tag holder and a second portion coupled to the fastener mechanism and configured to couple to the first portion;

coupling the container identification system to a container, such that the fastener mechanism extends for a length at least partially around an outer perimeter of the container, and wherein the tag holder has a circumferential length that is shorter than the length of the fastening mechanism; and

coupling an identification tag to the tag holder that facilitates identifying the container.

10. (original) A method in accordance with Claim 9 wherein coupling an identification tag to the tag holder further comprises coupling an identification tag to the tag holder that includes an erasable outer surface.

11. (original) A method in accordance with Claim 10 wherein coupling an identification tag to the tag holder further comprises coupling an identification tag to the tag holder that includes an erasable outer surface having a polypropylene coating.

12. (canceled)

13. (canceled)

14. (previously presented) A method in accordance with Claim 9 wherein coupling a tag holder to a fastening mechanism using an attachment mechanism further

comprises coupling the tag holder to the fastening mechanism using an attachment mechanism having at least one of a mechanical fastening device, an interlocking device, a hook and pile fastener, a hook and loop fastener, a tab and slot device, a locking mechanism, a magnet, a tying system, and a clip to the tag holder and to the fastener mechanism.

15. (previously presented) A method in accordance with Claim 9 wherein coupling a container identification system to a container further comprises coupling a first end of the fastener mechanism to a second end of the fastener mechanism by a coupling mechanism that includes at least one of a mechanical fastening device, an interlocking device, a hook and pile fastener, a hook and loop fastener, a tab and slot device, a locking mechanism, a magnet, a tying system, and a clip.